



New England Agricultural Statistics Service

a field office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service
United States Department of Agriculture

22 Bridge St. Third Floor
PO Box 1444
Concord, NH 03302

Aubrey R. Davis, Director
www.usda.gov/nass

603-224-9639
Fax: 603-225-1434
nass-nh@nass.usda.gov



Ag Review October 2003

Volume 23, Number 10

October 24, 2003

A special "THANK YOU" goes to New England producers and agri-businesses who have helped us by completing surveys via mail, telephone, or personal interviews. This issue contains the results of monthly and quarterly surveys.

IN THIS ISSUE

Chickens: Layers and Eggs
Dairy Products
Field Crops: Oats and Barley
Milk: Monthly Production and Price
Potato Prices
Tobacco

FIELD CROPS: Maine **oat** production was expected to total 2.3 million bushels in 2003, a decrease of 10 percent from the previous year's output. As of early September, growers reported an average grain yield of 78 bushels per acre, down 12 bushels per acre from the 2002 average yield. Harvested acreage this year was estimated at 30,000 acres, up 1,000 acres from the previous year.

Maine's 2003 **barley** production was forecasted at 1.8 million bushels, placing it 16 percent below 2002 output. Heavy winds and rain caused some lodging this year, contributing to an expected average yield of 65 bushels per acre, compared with 80 last year. Harvested acreage was estimated at 27,000 acres, an increase of 1,000 acres from 2002.

TOBACCO: The October 1, 2003 tobacco forecast placed **broadleaf** production at 4.5 million pounds in the Connecticut River Valley. Increased acreage and above average yields would place 2003 production 16 percent above last year's output and, if realized, would be the largest crop produced in the two States since 1959. Full crop potential was expected to be limited by damage from blue mold, brown spot, and stunted growth from excessive moisture at planting. Some fields were a complete loss and had to be disked under because damage was too extensive. Growers provided early October assessments with the crop still hanging in the sheds, and placed broadleaf yields at 1,820 pounds per acre.

Producers intend to harvest 1.4 million pounds of **shade** tobacco in Connecticut and Massachusetts, a 20 percent increase in production from last year's disease-reduced crop. Based on early October assessments, yields were expected to average 1,440 pounds per acre, compared with the 1,268 pounds per acre average a year earlier.

MILK PRODUCTION: Milk production in Vermont totaled 210 million pounds for September 2003, down two percent from September 2002. There were an estimated 147,000 milk cows on Vermont farms in September, unchanged from the previous month but a decrease of 6,000 cows from September 2002.

Milk production in New England during the third quarter (July-September) of 2003 totaled 1.06 billion pounds, down four percent from the same quarter the previous year. There were an estimated 239,300 milk cows on hand from July through September 2003, a decrease of 4,000 cows from the previous quarter. Milk Production per cow averaged 4,439 pounds for the third quarter of 2003 an increase of 56 pounds per cow from the same quarter in 2002.

Milk production in the United States during the third quarter of this year totaled 41.5 billion pounds, a decrease of less than one percent from the third quarter of 2002. There were 9.1 million milk cows in the United States during the third quarter of the year, slightly below the previous quarter's total. The United States average quarterly milk production rate was 4,582 pounds per cow for the third quarter of 2003, a slight increase from the third quarter of 2002.

LAYERS and EGGS: During September 2003, all **layers** in **Connecticut** and **Maine** totaled 8.0 million birds, a decrease of two percent from the previous year's combined total. Maine was the largest egg-producing State in New England during September 2003, with an output of 98 million **eggs**. Connecticut was next with a production of 62 million eggs, down six percent from September 2002 production.

The total number of layers in the **United States** during September 2003 averaged 332 million, down two percent from a year earlier. Egg production totaled 7.05 billion during September 2003, down one percent from last year. Production included 6.04 billion table eggs and 1.02 billion hatching eggs.

MAINE OATS and BARLEY: Acreage, Yield, and Production, 2002 - 2003

Crop and State	Area Planted		Area Harvested		Yield per Acre		Production	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003 Forecast as of Sep 1	2002	2003 Forecast as of Sep 1
	1,000 Acres	1,000 Acres	1,000 Acres	1,000 Acres	Bushels	Bushels	1,000 Bushels	1,000 Bushels
Oats								
Maine	30	31	29	30	90.0	78.0	2,610	2,340
United States	4,995	4,601	2,093	2,224	56.7	65.0	118,628	144,649
Barley								
Maine	27	28	26	27	80.0	65.0	2,080	1,755
United States	5,071	5,299	4,129	4,688	54.9	58.9	226,573	276,087

SOURCE: *Small Grains Summary*, 8:30 a.m., September 30, 2003, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

TOBACCO: Acreage, Yield, and Production, 2001 - 2003

Crop and State	Area Harvested			Yield per Acre			Production		
	2001	2002	2003 Forecast as of October 1	2001	2002	2003 Forecast as of October 1	2001	2002	2003 Forecast as of October 1
Tobacco	Acres	Acres	Acres	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	1,000 Pounds	1,000 Pounds	1,000 Pounds
Broadleaf (Type 51):									
Connecticut	1,300	1,250	1,500	1,790	1,820	1,800	2,327	2,275	2,700
Massachusetts	840	850	950	1,780	1,840	1,850	1,495	1,564	1,758
CT and MA Total	2,140	2,100	2,450	1,786	1,828	1,820	3,822	3,839	4,458
Shade (Type 61):									
Connecticut	970	640	700	1,490	1,385	1,500	1,445	886	1,050
Massachusetts	300	310	300	1,040	1,030	1,300	312	319	390
CT and MA Total	1,270	950	1,000	1,383	1,268	1,440	1,757	1,205	1,440
United States (All Types)	432,310	428,660	413,010	2,293	2,055	2,044	991,223	880,734	844,298

SOURCE: *Crop Production*, 8:30 a.m., October 10, 2003, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

MAINE POTATOES: Prices Received, 1998 - 2003 Crop Years

Crop Year	Prices Received ^{1/} by Farmers for Potatoes, Monthly and Marketing Year Average										
	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	Market Year Average
	Dollars per Cwt	Dollars per Cwt	Dollars per Cwt	Dollars per Cwt	Dollars per Cwt	Dollars per Cwt	Dollars per Cwt	Dollars per Cwt	Dollars per Cwt	Dollars per Cwt	Dollars per Cwt
1998	6.25	5.40	5.70	5.85	5.90	6.15	6.45	6.90	7.45	7.05	6.45
1999	5.80	5.30	5.45	6.35	6.45	6.30	6.35	6.40	6.80	6.60	6.35
2000	5.80	5.45	5.50	5.55	5.60	5.50	5.90	6.20	6.80	7.30	6.15
2001	6.20	5.70	6.05	6.65	7.50	7.75	8.30	8.65	9.45	8.05	7.65
2002	6.30	5.85	5.65	6.60	6.90	7.10	7.10	7.50	8.00	8.25	7.05
2003	6.15	5.45									

^{1/} Average price of potatoes sold for fresh market, processing, seed, and feed.SOURCE: *Agricultural Prices*, 3:00 p.m., September 30, 2003, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

MONTHLY MILK: Number of Cows and Production, September 2003 with Comparisons

State	Milk Cows ^{1/}			Production per Cow			Production		
	September 2002	August 2003	September 2003	September 2002	August 2003	September 2003	September 2002	August 2003	September 2003
	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Million Pounds	Million Pounds	Million Pounds
Vermont	153	147	147	1,400	1,460	1,430	214	215	210
New York	675	675	673	1,455	1,465	1,420	982	989	956
Pennsylvania	587	571	566	1,460	1,480	1,415	857	845	801
United States ^{2/}	7,781	7,750	7,743	1,497	1,563	1,503	11,648	12,110	11,641

^{1/} Average number for the month, including dry cows^{2/} United States includes only 20 major States: AZ, CA, FL, ID, IL, IN, IA, KY, MI, MN, MO, NM, NY, OH, PA, TX, VT, VA, WA, and WI.SOURCE: *Milk Production*, 3:00 p.m., October 17, 2003, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.**QUARTERLY MILK: Number of Cows and Production, July - September 2003 with Comparisons**

State	Milk Cows ^{1/}			Production per Cow			Production		
	Jul - Sep 2002	Apr - Jun 2003	Jul - Sep 2003	Jul - Sep 2002	Apr - Jun 2003	Jul - Sep 2003	Jul - Sep 2002	Apr - Jun 2003	Jul - Sep 2003
	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Million Pounds	Million Pounds	Million Pounds
Connecticut	24	22	22	4,470	4,840	4,520	107	106	99
Maine	37	35	35	4,440	4,600	4,490	164	161	157
Massachusetts	20	20	18	4,430	4,470	4,400	89	89	79
New Hampshire	17	16	16	4,680	4,910	4,650	80	79	74
Rhode Island	1.4	1.3	1.3	4,030	4,430	4,100	5.6	5.8	5.3
Vermont	154	149	147	4,318	4,557	4,408	665	679	648
NEW ENGLAND	253.4	243.3	239.3	4,383	4,603	4,439	1,110.6	1,119.8	1,062.3
United States	9,153	9,114	9,065	4,566	4,814	4,582	41,791	43,872	41,540

^{1/} Average number for quarter including dry cows.SOURCE: *Milk Production*, 3:00 p.m., October 17, 2003, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.**VERMONT MILK: Prices Received, 1998 - 2003**

Year	Prices Received ^{1/} by Farmers for Milk Sold to Plants												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual Average
	Dollars per Cwt	Dollars per Cwt	Dollars per Cwt	Dollars per Cwt	Dollars per Cwt	Dollars per Cwt	Dollars per Cwt	Dollars per Cwt	Dollars per Cwt	Dollars per Cwt	Dollars per Cwt	Dollars per Cwt	Dollars per Cwt
1998	15.20	15.20	15.20	14.90	14.60	15.10	14.80	15.90	17.30	17.90	17.70	18.00	16.00
1999	18.20	16.60	16.50	13.90	13.90	14.10	14.50	14.90	16.20	16.30	16.30	13.90	15.40
2000	13.40	13.40	13.50	13.40	13.50	13.80	13.50	13.80	14.00	14.00	14.30	14.60	13.80
2001	13.70	14.30	15.00	15.40	16.20	16.80	17.00	17.30	17.90	16.40	15.80	14.10	15.80
2002	14.20	13.80	13.30	13.10	12.70	12.10	11.60	11.70	12.00	12.50	12.50	12.40	12.70
2003 ^{2/}	12.30	11.90	11.50	11.50	11.50	11.50	12.00	13.20	14.10				

^{1/} Before deductions for hauling. Includes quality, quantity and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.^{2/} Most recent monthly price is a preliminary mid-month forecast.SOURCE: *Agricultural Prices*, 3:00 p.m., September 30, 2003, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.**MONTHLY DAIRY PRODUCTS: New England Production, August 2003 with Comparisons**

PRODUCT	August 2002	July 2003	August 2003	August 2003 as percent of:	
				August 2002	July 2003
	1,000 Pounds	1,000 Pounds	1,000 Pounds	Percent	Percent
Butter	1,892	2,368	1,670	88	71
American Type Cheese ^{1/}	--	5,835	5,983	--	103
Mozzarella Cheese	--	6,738	5,809	--	86
Other Italian Cheese ^{2/}	--	473	683	--	144
Cottage Cheese ^{3/}	572	688	613	107	89
	1,000 Gallons	1,000 Gallons	1,000 Gallons	Percent	Percent
Ice Cream, Hard	8,980	9,713	8,068	90	83
Low Fat Ice Cream, Hard	412	707	613	149	87
Milk Sherbet, Hard	181	133	222	123	167

^{1/} American Type Cheese includes cheddars, Colby, washed curd, stirred curd, Monterey and Jack.^{2/} Includes all Italian cheese except Mozzarella.^{3/} Creamed and lowfat.SOURCE of NATIONAL PRODUCTION: *Dairy Products*, 3:00 p.m., October 3, 2003, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

MONTHLY CHICKENS: Layers and Egg Production, September, 2002 - 2003

State	Table Egg Layers in Flocks 30,000 and Above		All Layers ^{1/}		Eggs per 100 for All Layers ^{1/}		Egg Production from All Layers ^{1/}	
	September 2002	September 2003	September 2002	September 2003	September 2002	September 2003	September 2002	September 2003
	1,000 Birds	1,000 Birds	1,000 Birds	1,000 Birds	Number	Number	Million Eggs	Million Eggs
Connecticut	3,406	3,351	3,898	3,856	2,258	2,256	66	62
Maine	4,272	4,135	4,328	4,181	1,987	2,344	86	98
United States	273,450	268,670	337,264	331,659	2,119	2,127	7,147	7,054

^{1/} Includes all layers and eggs produced in both table egg and hatching egg flocks regardless of size.
SOURCE: **Chickens and Eggs**, 3:00 p.m., October 21, 2003, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

This is a monthly summary of New England agricultural statistics taken from nationwide reports issued by USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service.

All National reports and State newsletters are available on the Internet at: <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>.
National Reports can be ordered by calling 1-800-999-6779.

How can you get these reports electronically?

* For free National e-mail reports, send a message to: usda-reports@usda.mannlib.cornell.edu and in the body, type: **lists**

* For free State newsletters, such as this, send a message to: listserv@newsbox.usda.gov and in the body, type: **subscribe new-eng-all-reports**
OR **lists** for other States.

AUBREY R. DAVIS, Director

Judy Price, Editorial Assistant

JOE SAMSON, Deputy Director

STATISTICIANS: Robin Helrich, Dianne Johnson, Everett Olbert, Angela Considine, Sherry Deane, Dave Mikelson, Emily McAllister

PERMIT NO. G-38
USDA
POSTAGE & FEES PAID
FIRST CLASS
PRESORTED

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
POST OFFICE BOX 1444
CONCORD NH 03302-1444

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED